

MADISON COUNTY LEPC
(Local Emergency Planning Committee)
Minutes

May15, 2008 7:00 PM
Twin Bridges Fire Hall
Twin Bridges, Montana

CHAIRMAN/VICE-CHAIRMAN

Identification of attendees
Approval of Minutes
Table Top Exercise

COMMITTEE REPORTS

∇ **Citizens Corp Council Report (M. Tichenor)**

Meeting call to order by Melinda Tichenor	Wayne Redfield-LEPC Chris Mumme-DES Susan Miller-FCCLA Sheri Luksha- CERT, ARC
Minutes	Wayne Redfield moved, seconded by Susan all in favor.
Financials and purchases	Chris reported there is about \$1063 left in this budget years funds for Citizen Corps Council. Chris is working with Vickie Tilstra the county bookkeeper to get a permanent account set up as a capital fund for a trailer to store the CERT supplies. Chris has been working on two other grants and waiting to hear from them.
Trailer search	Susan has talked with JR in Norris about trailers and he had a used one for \$4500. We will continue look for a used one.
Picnic-May 17 th Alder	Sheri has sent out postcards about the picnic. Sheri and Tom have picked up the supplies for the picnic. Thank you for all your efforts.
State CERT Money	A grant is available through the state Governors office in conjunction with the County Department of Health. We would have to have a CERT training by Aug. 1 to receive the money. Chris will contact Scott to see if we could have the CERT training in September.
Raffle	We are continuing to sell the raffle tickets for the case of MRE's and the 72 hour pack. Melinda will get the tables to Wayne so he can set up at the Farmers Markets in Twin Bridges.
Review - Map your neighborhood	No action at this time
Affiliate Reports	Wayne – will be gone and will need help with the article about the raffle Chris – The CERT members will be asked to help with the Ennis July 4 th Parade and there may be some emergency activity with the Primal Quest event coming the end of June. Sheri - has attended several Red Cross meetings and is willing to be the liaison between Madison County and the Red Cross and also the DAT County coordinator. Coree Martin has volunteered to be the contact

	person for the Twin and Sheridan area
Fair Booth	Wayne will be able to help with the set up on Thursday August 14 th . the raffle drawing will be Sunday August 17 th at the Fair. We will try to get all the Emergency groups together to share people.
Next meeting	June 12 th At 7:00 pm in VC

▽ **Emergency Management Dept. Report (C. Mumme)**

Drought report: On May 12th I attended the 3rd Drought Task Force meeting in Dillon. Madison County has been taken off the drought status for now. The snow pack in the mountain ranges from 100 to 150 % of normal and the precipitation for April was 100-120 percent of normal with continued low temperatures ranging from 5-10 degrees lower than normal. For the remainder of May, there is a high pressure trough coming which will create a NW flow resulting in above normal temperatures beginning this Friday and will last a few days. Then the flow will change and we are in for up to 14 days more of below normal temperatures.

We may squeak through without flooding if there is no moisture during the warm trend, but we cannot count on that and there has been very little snow pack reduction, so right now we are looking for some flooding. There is a 76% chance of flow exceeding the flood level, 18% chance of moderate flooding and a 13% chance that there will be extreme flood conditions, so we must be on the lookout and be prepared.

Fire Districts: I have been in the process of mapping out the Fire Districts and working in concert with the Treasurers Dept, Assessment and Clerk and Recorder, there have been a few glitches and I will be proposing a new strategy where the County is one Fire District vs. current setting. I will be meeting with the Commissioners on this subject this Tuesday the 13th to discuss this matter and hopefully have a report for you at this meeting.

False Alarm: Still waiting on AG help

Grant update: Grant for \$4500 from Helper is submitted and will hear by May 15th for CERT. Also, the Town Pump grant for \$4500 for CERT has gotten past the first viewing and bumped upstairs for a decision. Madison County has also been awarded an extra \$20,000 for the fuel reduction program and an extension to this grant to December 31, 2008. This department is also putting in for another \$40,000 to continue the program for another 3 years.

HLS-CAM: This department met with the Commissioners and agreed on an idea that was brought to me by Tom and Sheri Luksha. Beginning the first of June, the Luksha's will be conducting risk assessments on Government buildings such as all our schools, courthouse, town halls, etc in the first phase of our County's vulnerability assessments. The continuing phases will include critical businesses in the county, etc. These assessments will mainly be created so that in case of a fire, the 1st responders will be able to view the inside of the building (virtually) as well as know what type of structure and materials that are in the building, same goes for a SWAT if there is a lockdown due to a domestic violence concerning a shooter, or whatever the threat may be.

Lock-down Procedure: Presented to the Commissioners on 13 May 08, commissioners will read over and will make their approval or not on 27 May 08. Copies available from the DES office.

Training: A training class was given today 15 May 2008 on Skywarn and Cocorahs reporting.

Current Projects:

- Sheridan realignment of Fire District, Harrison & Ennis, Twin Bridges
- New Sub-division reg's
- Annex for flooding & Wildfire
- Updating resource book (Steve Orr working with me on that)
- Emergency address numbering (starting with HWY 359)

▽ **Communications Coordinator Report (Steve DiGiovanna)**

Popular Dispatcher Retires

After nearly 20 years with the County Sheriff's Office, Communications Officer Casey Baril has decided to call it quits. Recently, Casey has been hampered by care concerns for her daughter and important family needs. Casey began her department career on March 31st, 1988 - and retired from the department on March 15th, 2008. Casey, known for her calm and cool radio presence - and competency with office duties, came from a law enforcement background in the Vallejo / Martinez area of California. Janet Fortner, Communications Center Supervisor said, "for me as a supervisor, I will sorely miss her experience, dedication and quick wit - and her laughter and caring for the well being of others."

Casey has said she will miss the public, the people she worked with, the "excitement" and the satisfaction of a job well done. We will miss her as well. "the single biggest problem in communications is the illusion that it has taken place"

Madison County Fire Chiefs Council

On April 9th, the first Madison County Fire Chief Council convened at the Courthouse in Virginia City. The meeting was held in the Jury Room and was facilitated by the department of DES / Communications (Chris Mumme and Steve DiGiovanna). All seven of the county fire agencies were well represented at this gathering. Those in attendance included:

Twin Bridges Fire Chief Lloyd Carlson and Captain Brendan Dale

Sheridan Fire Chief Ted Woirhaye

Alder Fire Chief Dan Doornbos and Asst. Chief Steve Gilman

Virginia City Fire Chief Roger Williams and Asst. Chief Robert Erdall

Madison Valley Rural Fire Chief Shawn Christensen

Harrison Fire Chief Joe Husar and Asst Chief John Armstrong

Yellowstone Club FD Chief Steve Hauck and Captain Jesse Thrush

Sheriff Office / IMT representative Captain Steve Orr

DES 1 Chris Mumme

DES 2 Steve DiGiovanna

Agenda Topics included:

- a. Fire Department boundary adjustments and assigning fire protection to undesignated areas
- b. Mobile Command Unit trailer availability and the use of the newly formed IMT group
- c. Spring run off and local flooding preparation and ideas
- d. Upcoming live burn training in Sheridan on April 13th
- e. DES 1 and DES 2 operations, DES / Communications - county emergency response coordination responsibilities and training
- f. Communications – new IM towers, new dispatchers, frequencies and county numbering considerations

g. Fire Dept. specialized equipment availability and department capabilities

Open Discussion

Alder Assistant Fire Chief Steve Gilman pointed out that the local fire departments are having difficulty recruiting and retaining firefighters.

DES 1 Chris Mumme agreed to work on this issue through the DES office.

Madison Valley Rural Chief Shawn Christiansen noted that due to fire service responsibilities and job hazards, the firefighters are more like

“unpaid professionals” rather than an occasional gathering of community volunteers.

DES 2 Steve DiGiovanna mentioned that a partial answer / quick fix to the dilemma of decreased firefighter response is the need to request

mutual aid sooner for significant or “working incidents” – and additional reliance on your neighboring department for resources and help.

There was general discussionary agreement related to the need and desire to have the Fire Chief meetings on a quarterly basis - with the

possibility of multi-agency exercises and drills being conducted as well. Future meetings will be facilitated through the DES office.

Yellowstone Chief Steve Hauck discussed a willingness by his department to participate more often in county functions and responses.

The Communication Department will facilitate a County Fire Department newsletter to include information about significant responses,

new equipment, training options and general fire suppression information. This newsletter can then be distributed to all fire agencies and

firefighters via electronic mail.

OLD BUSINESS

NEW BUSINESS

- Flood Control: Chris is working on the Flood Annex

SCHEDULE NEXT MEETING – June 19, 2008

ADJOURN